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**For Immediate Release:**

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### DIGGING IN THE DIRT TO START PROCESS WIDEN HIGHWAY 400

Cumming, GA – The Georgia Department of Transportation announces the left shoulder and median of Highway 400 will be closed at two locations beginning this weekend. Crews will be pulling soil samples nightly at Big Creek Bridge and at Sawnee Creek Bridge Sunday, August 16 to Friday, August 21 starting at 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the next morning. This work will not affect the travel lanes of Highway 400, only the shoulders and median.

The soil samples are required as part of to design the new, wider roadway and bridges. The project will add an additional lane on Highway 400 from McFarland Road to Highway 369. The 13.4 mile long, \$47.4 million construction cost is primarily funded through the 2014 Forsyth Transportation Bond.

“Forsyth County’s Leadership stepped up to the plate last year deciding to take control of their future mobility through a transportation bond. The People of Forsyth are purposefully investing in their own infrastructure. An integral part of Forsyth’s mobility is Highway 400. The widening of 400 from McFarland to Highway 369 is being designed now and construction is expected to begin later this year,” exclaimed Rudy Bowen, Georgia DOT Board Member representing the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

***DriveAlert ArriveAlive** calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit [www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA](http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA). #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov) or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE) (<https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE>) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GDOTNE) (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNE>).*

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